

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please enter the following amended claims:**

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of a mutant Bcl-X<sub>L</sub>/Bcl-2 Associated Cell Death Regulator polypeptide (BAD), or fragment of said isolated or synthetic polypeptide comprising a less than full-length amino acid sequence of said mutant BAD, wherein:

a) said isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or said fragment, contains a domain at least 75% homologous to a BH3 domain of a naturally-occurring or wild-type mammalian BAD;

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b) said amino acid sequence of said isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or said amino acid sequence of said fragment, does not have a serine at a position corresponding to position 118 of SEQ ID NO:1, said position in said amino acid sequence of said isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or said position in said amino acid sequence of said fragment, being identified by alignment of said amino acid sequence of said isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or said amino acid sequence of said fragment, to SEQ ID NO:1; and

c) said isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or said fragment, has cell death promoting activity.

2. The isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or fragment, of Claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of said mutant BAD, or of said fragment, is at least 75% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1

13. The isolated or synthetic polypeptide, or fragment, of Claim 10, wherein said isolated or synthetic polypeptide binds Bcl-X<sub>L</sub> and/or Bcl-2, or said fragment binds Bcl-X<sub>L</sub>

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and/or Bcl-2, through said domain that is at least 75% homologous to a BH3 domain of a naturally-occurring or wild-type mammalian BAD.

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